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EAST GERMAN ECONOMIC PLAN FOR 1949

Neues Deutschland  
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In its plenary session of 30 March 1949, the German Economic Commission approved the following goals for the 1949 Economic Plan.

Industry

Gross industrial production in the GDR (German Democratic Republic) is to be 16 percent greater in 1949 than in 1948.

Economic conditions of 1949 are dependent primarily on increased domestic production and improved quality; increased supplies of raw and other materials; increased trade with other countries, especially with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies; a better utilization of existing production installations; large-scale investments for expansion of existing and construction of new production installations; a better supply of consumer goods; and increased labor productivity and an expanded activist movement.

During 1949, production in the various branches of industry is scheduled to rise as follows:

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Production Increase Over 1948 (in %)</u>
Mining	9.0
Metallurgy	45.0
Machine building	20.4
Electrical engineering	25.1
Precision mechanics/optics	21.1
Chemical	20.1
Stone, ceramics, and glass	16.4
Woodworking and cultural goods	12.9
Textiles	11.1
Leather, shoes, furs, and ready-to-wear clothing	15.9
Cellulose, paper, and printing	47.1
Food, beverages, and tobacco	14.8
Raw wood, tanning bark, and resin	81.4
Electric power and gas	02.1

Agriculture and Forestry

The agricultural plan for 1949 calls for expansion of the total cultivated area, increased per-hectare yields, improved quality of seeds, higher livestock population, and an increase in the quantity of animal products available for consumption.

The average yields of the most important agricultural crops, such as grains, potatoes, sugar beets, oleaginous seeds and fiber plants, are to be increased by at least 10 percent over those of 1948.

The total area under cultivation will be expanded by about 31,000 hectares by harvest time of 1949. Crops are to be distributed in the cultivated area as follows:

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<u>Crop</u>	<u>Area</u> <u>(1000 ha)</u>
Winter grain	1,780.3
Winter oleaginous seeds	64.6
Summer grain, including pulses	1,109.7
Sugar beets	218.0
Summer oleaginous seeds	77.4
Fiber plants	27.0
Tobacco	8.0
Potatoes	818.0
Vegetables	117.0
Fodder root crops	228.0
Fodder field crops	358.0
Other crops	5.0
Seedings for green cover (Aussat fuer Gruen Duengung)	31.0
Approximate total	4,882.0

The 1948-49 planting plan stresses the expansion of winter planting, particularly that of oil seeds.

Special preference is to be given to the production of seeds for oleaginous plants, fiber plants, sugar beets, fodder root crops, and grass.

For the 1949-50 period an additional 5,000 hectares of land are to be cultivated.

Continuing the melioration work of 1948, an additional 57,500 hectares of agricultural land are to be drained and irrigated in 1949.

In the field of animal husbandry, a maximum increase is to be achieved, especially with regard to quick-growing animals (pigs). By the end of 1949, the animal population must be expanded as follows (figures for 1948 are given for comparison; figures are in 1,000 head):

<u>Animals</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>
Horses	664.8	690
Cattle	2,879.4	3,180
Cows	1,233.6	1,330
Pigs	2,616.2	3,000
Sheep	723.3	894

The increase in pig production is designed to contribute fat and meat to the food supply and to reduce the extent of slaughtering of the slower-growing cattle herds.

Agriculture is to receive more machines and fertilizer in 1949. Apart from the import of tractors, machines, and materials from the Soviet Union, 500 domestically produced tractors are to be distributed among farmers.

In 1949, agricultural machines, equipment, and replacement parts valued at 59.6 million DM are to be produced in the GDR. The number of tractors in MTS is to be increased by 1,500 in 1949.

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Agricultural construction activity during 1949 will supply 28,150 homes, 27,250 stables, and 17,500 barns, or a total of 72,900 building units through new construction, expansion, or remodeling.

In the field of forestry, the felling of 13 million cubic meters of raw timber is scheduled for 1949, compared with 17,115,000 in 1948. In 1949, 14,310,000 cubic meters of timber will be hauled from the forests, compared with 18,802,000 in 1948.

Reforestation in 1949 is to be double that of the preceeding year, and is to extend over 40,000 hectares. Preference is to be given to regions suitable for the planting of quick-growing trees and to those where reforestation could exercise a favorable influence on climate and the water supply.

#### Transportation

In accordance with the transportation requirements of the economy, freight transportation (exclusive of local motorized traffic) will rise 12.8 percent in 1949 over that of 1948.

The details of the planned goals for 1949 for the most important functions of the various carriers are shown below (fulfillment figures for 1948 are given for comparison):

<u>Item</u>	<u>1948 Fulfillment</u>	<u>1949 Plan</u>
Daily avg freight carloadings (car)	13,687	15,800
Railroad passenger transportation (million persons)	916.77	920
Locomotive repairs (units)	5,584	5,830
Freight-car repairs (units)	38,281	69,900
Passenger-car repairs (units)	6,465	6,602
S-Bahn car repairs (units)	920	1,294
Freight-car turnaround time (days)	4.6	4.3
Avg daily run, freight locomotive (km)	194.1	205
Avg daily run, passenger locomotive (km)	235.3	260
Freight transported by inland shipping (1,000 tons)	7,829.0	9,000
Repairs of inland shipping		
Self-propelled transport and technical fleet (units)	1,121	1,170
Towboats (units)	1,482	1,555
Automotive transportation		
Freight including local traffic (1,000 tons)	46,657.7	52,000
Passenger buses (million persons)	71.25	75.1

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<u>Item</u>	<u>1948 Fulfillment</u>	<u>1949 Plan</u>
Road traffic		
Street repairs (1,000 sq m)	670	6,000
Reconstruction of bridges (larger projects only) (units)	114	150

#### Reconstruction Work and Capital Investments

The 1949 investment plan encompasses all fields of industry and agriculture, transportation, residential construction, health, public education, and welfare. The total planned investments for 1949 amount to 1,384,000,000 DM, including 20 percent for residential construction; 19 percent for cultural and welfare buildings; 49 percent for agriculture, reforestation, transportation, postal and telecommunication services, and industry; and 12 percent for other segments of the economy.

The funds required for investments are covered by the national budget (51 percent), current amortizations, (31.5 percent), and long-term credits (11.5 percent).

The following are among the most important individual projects of the investment program:

Industry -- the Finkenherd Mine, Bezirk Lebus the "Erika" Briquette Factory; a new black-coal mine at Doberlug-Kirchhain; a shaft (pit) in the black-coal region of Zwickau; open-pit mines at Werminghoff; a new briquette factory at Werminghoff; copper mines at Mansfeld; the Riesa Steelworks; the Max-Huette at Untertwellenborn; the Remmingsdorf Steelworks; the Vehicle Works at Chemnitz; the vehicle works at Zwickau; the expansion of the Zeiss and Schoft works at Jena, the Warnow Shipyard at Warnemuende, the shipyards at Stralsund, the Trans-former Works at Oberschoeneweide, and the Brandenburg Tractor Works; the Turingian Cellulose Works at Schwarza; and the Deka Tire Plant at Ketschendorf.

Agriculture and forestry -- amelioration improvement of the water supply reforestation-people's farm; MTS, and expansion of the fishing fleet and port facilities.

Public education -- the Humboldt University in Berlin; the universities of Leipzig, Greifswald, and Rostock; the Dresden Technical Institute, the Academy of Sciences, the museums in Berlin, the People's Theater Berlin; and several million DM for the expansion of theaters in Berlin and in other large cities.

Also, considerable funds will be provided for new buildings and for the reconstruction of schools, for the construction of polyclinics and rural dispensaries and the reconstruction of hospitals and convalescent homes, and for road and bridge building.

Residential building and urban reconstruction -- in the field of residential building, the construction of 5,000 new apartments, of an average size of 52 square meters (including "Nebenraeume" [utility rooms], such as kitchens, halls, etc.), is to be carried out in key industrial areas in 1949 as follows:

<u>Industry</u>	<u>No. of New Apartments</u>
Coal and electric power	1,000
Metallurgy	1,200
Chemical	1,300
Machine construction	1,500

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In addition, a total of 18,500 apartments are to be obtained through restoration of war-damaged dwellings. They are to be distributed among the Laender and Berlin as follows:

Mecklenburg	2,000
Brandenburg	2,500
Saxony	5,300
Sachsen-Anhalt	4,200
Turingia	1,350
Berlin	3,500

Some 50,000 other apartments are to be repaired and made fit for occupancy. They are to be distributed among the Laender and Berlin as follows:

Mecklenburg	4,000
Brandenburg	9,000
Saxony	12,000
Sachsen-Anhalt	7,000
Turingia	3,000
Berlin	15,000

The greatest emphasis is to be placed on starting the planned reconstruction of the cities of Berlin, Potsdam, Leipzig, Dresden, Magdeburg, and Wismar.

#### Health

In 1949, the number of hospital beds is to be raised to 166,310 and this includes a sharp rise in the number of beds for tuberculosis cases. There will be twice the number of beds in spas (as in 1948); the number should amount to 17,800. The number of beds available to members of the FDGB (Free German Trade Union Association) in health resorts will be raised from 23,990 to 56,670.

During 1949, the number of full-time physicians in the public service is to be increased by 1,123 to a total of 8,070.

Health care in industrial enterprises is to be considerably expanded through the establishment of about 240 aid stations and 15 additional polyclinics by the end of 1949.

In rural areas, the number of community nurses and midwives is to be increased by about 600. The number of places in children's nurseries is to be raised from 5,260 to 7,960. The number of trainees at intermediate nursing schools is to be brought up to 6,335. The investment plan provides for the expansion and new construction of hospitals, polyclinics, dispensaries, aid stations, nurseries, emergency stations, and welfare establishments for tuberculosis cases.

#### Cultural Development

During 1949, the total number of schools in the GDR should amount to 13,185, with an enrollment of about 3,712,000. Of the total number of schools, there should be 11,257 elementary schools with an enrollment of 2,906,000. The plan also calls for the operation of a total of 1,232 vocational trade schools, an increase of about 400 over 1948, with an enrollment of 669,550.

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The number of specialized schools (Fachschulen) is to be increased by 260 and they are to have an enrollment of 30,990. New enrollment in schools in 1949 will amount to about 357,000 for elementary schools, approximately 284,000 for vocational schools, and about 16,000 for specialized schools. The number of students in senior high schools (Oberschulen) will be about 104,700 of whom about 11,200 will graduate this year.

Of a total of 27,489 students at the 19 universities and institutes of higher learning in the GDR, 3,290 students are expected to complete their studies in 1949. New enrollment for higher studies at the university level is to be increased to 5,400, or by about 600 over last year.

The number of popular advanced schools (Volkshochschulen) is to be expanded by 44, to a total of 147. The number of their students is to increase from 126,500 in 1948 to 151,100 in 1949.

Teachers colleges are to train 9,410 new teachers, and 12,680 teachers are expected to take their first examinations and 5,975 the second examinations at advanced teacher training courses.

The number of children's nurseries is to be increased by 800 to a total of 5,340; the number of children's homes is to be expanded from 775 to 827. A total of 272,000 children are to be admitted to nurseries and special attention is to be paid to the establishment and development of nurseries in industrial enterprises.

The investment plan provides for the expansion of existing and the construction of new universities, institutions of higher learning, schools, museums, and theaters.

In addition clubs, cultural rooms and motion picture theaters are to be established in large enterprises and MTS. The system of enterprise libraries and of joint libraries for several enterprises or for the whole MTS area is to be further extended. To promote physical culture and sports, sports equipment is to be provided, and the necessary steps should be taken to equip enterprise gymnasiums.

#### Standard of Living

The general production increase is intended to improve the quality and variety of products and is to lead eventually to gradual abolition of rationing of mass-consumption goods.

In 1949, 145 percent more fabric, 52 percent more shoes, 50 percent more hosiery, 140 percent more knitted underwear, and 45 percent more furniture than in 1948 should be available.

The food supply will show gradual improvement. The agricultural plan for 1949 will ensure the regular supply of rations under the ration-card system, as well as a supply of additional foodstuffs for workers in enterprises. Free market sales will supplement the supply of merchandise. Imports from the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, as well as from other European countries, will overcome the prevailing difficulties in the food-supply situation. Although there will be a considerable deficit in the supply of meat, the new distribution of agricultural land will gradually bring about an improvement in this field.

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